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Oklahoma Agricultural Statistics Service, P.O. Box 528804

Oklahoma City, OK 73152

Phone (405) 522-6190

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-Cooperative Extension Service
-USDA Farm Service Agency
-The Oklahoma Mesonet

Wheat Harvest Underway

May 23 - Wheat harvest began in Southern and Central Oklahoma this past week, at least a week to 10 days ahead of normal. Weather conditions were virtually unchanged this week as more hot, dry temperatures and winds hit the State. The hot weather helped advance crop progress, however, soil moisture levels continued to dwindle. A few areas saw a limited amount of rainfall with most of it falling in the Central district. Topsoil moisture decreased from mostly short to adequate to mostly very short to short this week. Subsoil moisture was at 1 percent surplus, 41 percent adequate, 44 percent short and 14 percent very short. There were 6.3 days suitable for fieldwork.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	29	45	24	2
Last Week	13	41	42	4
Last Year	2	20	72	6

SUBSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	14	44	41	1
Last Week	13	29	55	3
Last Year	7	33	55	5

Small Grains: Wheat conditions were consistent with last week. Eight percent of the wheat was in excellent condition, 41 percent was in good condition, 33 percent was in fair condition, and 18 percent was in poor to very poor condition. Wheat is 100 percent headed. Wheat in the soft dough stage is at 86 percent, 15 points above last year and 18 points above the five-year average of 68 percent. Wheat harvest began in the Southwest and Central sections of the State. Early test weights were reported to be good to excellent. Other areas of the State were anticipating wheat harvesting to begin very soon. One percent of the wheat had been harvested by week's end. Rye condition was 5 percent excellent, 57 percent good, 23 percent fair, 12 percent poor, and 3 percent very poor. Rye was 95 percent in the soft dough stage, which was up 12 points from last week. Oat condition was 1 percent excellent, 40 percent good, 43 percent fair, 11 percent poor, and 5 percent very poor. Oats were ahead of the five-year normals with 99 percent jointing, 93 percent headed, and 55 percent soft dough.

SMALL GRAIN CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending May 23, 2004

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Wheat					
This Week	5	13	33	41	8
Last Week	5	11	33	44	7
Last Year	3	8	31	45	13
Rye					
This Week	3	12	23	57	5
Oats					
This Week	5	11	43	40	1

Row Crops: The warm, dry weather was helping to advance the development of row crops. Sorghum progressed above the five-year average this week. Sorghum seedbed preparation increased 7 points from 75 to 82 percent. Thirty-one percent of the crop was planted, increasing 5 points from the previous week and 21 percent of the crop had emerged. Corn planting was virtually complete. The warm weather boosted emergence by 24 points from the previous week to 83 percent. Corn conditions were at 13 percent excellent, 64 percent

good, 20 percent fair and 3 percent poor. Soybean seedbed preparation reached 85 percent and half of the crop was planted. Thirty-three percent of the soybeans had emerged. Peanut progress was ahead of both last year and the five-year average. Eighty-three percent of the peanuts had been planted, a 20 point increase from last week, and 11 points above the five-year average. Peanut conditions were 47 percent good, 49 percent fair, and 4 percent poor. Cotton was at 68 percent planted. Fifty-one percent of cotton had emerged which was 11 points ahead of normal.

ROW CROPS CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending May 23, 2004

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	0	3	20	64	13
Peanuts	0	4	49	47	0

Hay: There was favorable weather for cutting hay last week. The first cutting of alfalfa was 96 percent harvested, up 7 points from last year and 9 points above the five-year average. The second cutting of alfalfa was fifteen percent complete. Conditions were consistent with last week, however, the lack of moisture and hot, dry winds were limiting the regrowth of alfalfa. Other hay was slightly ahead of the historic trend with 48 percent of the first cutting complete. The hot, dry weather was also beginning to limit growth for other hay.

HAY CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending May 23, 2004

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	1	5	25	54	15
Other Hay	1	5	30	56	8

Miscellaneous Commodities: Watermelons were 81 percent planted Statewide, below both last year and the five-year average of 93 percent. Watermelon vines were 26 percent running, which is up from last year at 23 percent and the five year average of 20 percent.

Pasture: Pasture conditions were rated as mostly good to fair, however, pastures were in bad need of rain as the lack of rain, wind, and above normal temperatures were causing conditions to deteriorate quickly. Conditions were at 8 percent excellent, 42 percent good, 35 percent fair, and 15 percent poor to very poor.

Livestock: Livestock conditions were 18 percent excellent, 57 percent good, 22 percent fair, and 3 percent poor. Livestock insect activity was mostly light to moderate. Eight percent reported heavy activity, which was up from 4 percent from last week. Eleven percent reported no insect activity. The price for feeder steers less than 800 pounds averaged \$108.03 per cwt., up from last week. The price for feeder heifers less than 800 pounds was \$102.27 cwt., an increase of thirty five cents from last week.

LIVESTOCK CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending May 23, 2004

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Livestock	0	3	22	57	18
Pasture & Range	3	12	35	42	8

Oklahoma Crop-Weather Summary
P.O. Box 528804
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73152

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TIME DATED MATERIAL

OKLAHOMA CROP PROGRESS
Week Ending May 23, 2004

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 - Yr Avg.	Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 - Yr Avg.
Wheat -					Soybeans -				
Soft Dough	86	58	71	68	Seedbed Prepared	85	80	78	83
Harvested	1	n/a	n/a	n/a	Planted	50	36	51	51
Oats -					Emerged	33	19	36	36
Jointing	99	94	94	97	Peanuts -				
Headed	93	70	82	82	Planted	83	63	81	72
Soft Dough	55	28	42	50	Emerged	69	36	56	43
Rye -					Cotton -				
Soft Dough	95	83	n/a	n/a	Planted	68	50	72	65
Corn -					Emerged	51	31	43	40
Planted	99	95	88	95	Alfalfa -				
Emerged	83	59	72	86	1 st Cutting	96	88	89	87
Sorghum -					2 nd Cutting	15	n/a	n/a	n/a
Seedbed Prepared	82	75	65	77	Other Hay -				
Planted	31	26	24	27	1 st Cutting	48	38	39	45
Emerged	21	13	17	20	Watermelons -				
					Planted	81	72	93	93
					Running	26	8	23	20

Weather for Week Ending May 23, 2004 - Temperatures ranged from 42 degrees at Boise City on Sunday, May 23rd, to 105 degrees at Buffalo on Wednesday, May 19th. Precipitation averaged 0.00 inches Southwest, North Central, South Central, and East Central districts to 0.12 inches Central district. Soil temperatures averaged 67 degrees at Foraker on Monday, May17th, to 87 degrees at Cherokee on Sunday, May 23rd.

MESONET TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA
Week Ending May 23, 2004

Districts	Temperature			Precipitation			
	High	Low	Average	This Week	March 1, 2004 to May 23, 2004		
					Total	Departure from Normal	Percent of Normal
	Degrees			Inches			
Panhandle	92	59	76	0.07	5.08	- 0.91	85
West Central	91	66	78	0.01	6.89	- 1.74	80
Southwest	91	67	79	0.00	6.54	- 2.07	76
North Central	90	67	79	0.00	8.54	- 0.60	93
Central	87	69	78	0.12	7.72	- 3.22	71
South Central	86	69	77	0.00	6.51	- 4.95	57
Northeast	84	68	76	0.01	12.82	+1.09	109
East Central	85	68	76	0.00	10.58	- 2.21	83
Southeast	85	68	76	0.01	8.49	- 5.20	62